OREGON JOURNAL
PORTLAND, OREGON 97201 • PHONE 222-5511

March 19, 1969

Dear Mr. Newman:

I recently purchased your book, "The Early Paper Money of America," and would like to ask your advice.

I am a great-great-great-great-great grandson of Isaac Snowden, mentioned in your book as a signer of Pennsylvania currency (April 10, 1777). I am most anxious to secure a bill signed by him, or one signed by his elder brother, Jedidiah, mentioned in your book as a signer of Pennsylvania currency in the April 29, 1780, issue, and again on June 1, 1780.

Jedidiah Snowden was also listed by you as a signer of Continental currency, and bills signed by him appear on pages 40 and 41 of your book, and again--if I'm not mistaken--as an example of a counterfeit on page 355.

I have been through every bill in the collection of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, have been through rare book and manuscript shops recommended by the society, have visited coin and currency dealers who have caused my query to be sent out over a nationwide teletype hookup--all to no avail.

Then I came upon your book in a shop here in Portland,

and I thought you might be able to guide you a place where I might purchase an example of the signature of Isaac or Jedidiah Snowden. I imagine a bill signed by Jedidiah would be easier to come by.

Thank you for any help you might be able to give me.

Charles Snowden

Charles Snowden,
Editorial Dept.

My home address is:

916 Cumberland Road,
Lake Oswego, Oregon 97034

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April 5, 1969

Dear Mr. Newman:

I am extremely grateful for your letter, which arrived today. I'm happy that my lengthy search has ended; I was pretty well convinced when I wrote you that if anyone could help me, you could.

Since the clarity of the signature means a great deal more to me than the rarity of the issue, I have opted for:

Cont. Cur 5/20/77 $3 good #191013 (recalled issue) $20

and

Cont. Cur 1/17/79 $70 abt. unc. #134859 $50

A check for $70 payable to Richard Picker is enclosed. I also have enclosed cash to cover whatever postage--insured mail, registered mail or the like--that you might think appropriate. I certainly wouldn't want to lose these bills after having searched for them so long.

Now to another matter. Your remark that you never sell, only trade, your numismatic items, prompts me to inquire whether you would be interested in any of the items shown on the enclosed Xerox.

These were found among the papers of my great-great grandfather on my grandmother's side. I had them framed as the Xerox shows because I was intrigued by the notation on the lower left-hand corner of the envelope. Of course I have no way of proving that they did indeed come from a hiding place in Thomas Jefferson's fireplace. His home in Philadelphia was, however, at 7th and Market Sts. The name and address is that of my great-great grandfather.

These bills are of considerably less interest to me than the Snowden items you listed in your letter. If any of the

framed bills would be valuable to you, I would be more than happy to discuss an exchange. If they would not, then I'd be grateful if you would effect the Picker transaction.

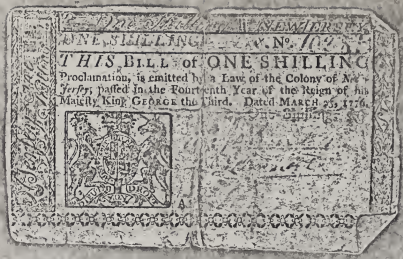
Thank you once more for your kind letter. I hope to hear from you soon.

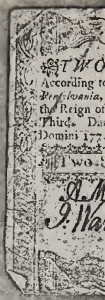
Very Sincerely,

Charles Snowden

Charles Snowden

P.S. I Xeroxed these bills after writing this letter. Our office machine obviously is less efficient than yours. If any of these bills look promising, I can send them to you for closer inspection or have one of the photographers here at the paper take a shot of them.





Alexander Benson Es
No. 2107 Walnut
City

Colonial Money
Found for Chimney Place
Thos Jefferson's House 7th & Market

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

April 8, 1969

Mr. Charles Snowden
945 Cumberland Road
Lake Oswego, Oregon 97034

Dear Mr.Snowden:

It is a pleasure to make you happy. In accordance with your request, there are enclosed the two items which you selected.

Thank you, very much, for the Xerox of the items found in your ancestor's file. The Pennsylvania and New Jersey bills, which are alleged to have been in Thomas Jefferson's fireplace is probably fiction. These pieces are already in my collection but I appreciate your desire to help me.

For all I know you might get very much interested in this field and we will be corresponding again.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

CERTIFIED MAIL

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

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April 12, 1969

Dear Mr. Newman:

The bills arrived yesterday, in perfect condition. Thank you for taking the trouble to send them certified mail.

I'm having the bills framed today, and will cherish them. Thank you once again for your trouble. I will keep my eyes open for any items that might be of interest to you. (I, too, suspect that the Thomas Jefferson's chimney story is fiction. I wish I knew its origin).

Sincerely,

Charles Snowden

Charles Snowden